

Amilla Fushi

BAA ATOLL, MALDIVES

We like 'new'. We love 'inventive'. We're big on 'unusual'. Which is why our ears pricked up and our tails wagged when we heard Per Aquum founder Tom McLoughlin was launching a new concept in the Baa Atoll. He's good at new/inventive/unusual. The architecture, for starters — it's so unusual, it's a shock to the system: white cubes standing cheek-to-cheek over a reef. Then head inside to the bright, colourful suites with the coolest bathroom tiles in all of the Maldives. Less shocking, but just as inventive, are the treehouses — up in the palm-tree canopy, with a pool amid the fronds. No hushed, hidden-away, romantic dining here, either; instead there's a mini 'boulevard' of restaurants. There are enormous beanbags all over the place, an outdoor cinema, and a cheery, zingy kids' club. Anything goes. Stroll barefoot from restaurant to restaurant, perch in the bar with a ginger martini, pad out along the pier to swanky Lonu, by Aussie whiz Luke Mangan. Best thing of all? The Javvu Spa and its cool treatment pods, where you get an hour's treatment on arrival. We love. **BOOK IT** Cleveland Collection (clevelandcollection.co.uk; 020 7843 3596) offers seven nights, half-board, from £3,200, including flights and transfers.

Prime time

October, when Amilla's Dive Butler service comes to the fore, for seeking out passing whale sharks and manta rays.